

**City of East Providence Budget Commission
City Hall
145 Taunton Avenue
East Providence, RI 02914
(401) 435-7500
Meeting Minutes March 28, 2013
3:00 PM Room 306, City Hall**

**Working Session 3:00 PM
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Room 306, City Hall**

Members: Diane Brennan – present
Michael O’Keefe – present
Stephen Bannon – present
Peter Graczykowski, City Manager - present
James Briden, Mayor – present

Other Attendees: Governor Lincoln Chafee
Rosemary Booth Gallogly, Director of Revenue
Christy Healey, Deputy Director of Revenue
Robert Eaton, Budget Commission Fiscal Advisor
Kat Waterbury, Human Resource Director
Heather Martino, Interim Human Resource Director
Malcolm Moore, Finance Director
John DeGoes, Interim Superintendent
Kim Mercer, Superintendent
Joel Monteiro, School Committee Chair
Members of the Public

The Meeting was called to order at 3:04 PM.

Item #1: East Providence Budget Commission accomplishments and recommendation to continue delegation of authority – Diane Brennan.

Governor Lincoln Chafee began by expressing his gratitude to the volunteer Budget Commission members, Chairperson Diane Brennan, Michael O’Keefe, and Stephen Bannon. He also expressed his thanks to the other Commission members City Manager Peter Graczykowski, Mayor Jim Briden, and former Mayor Bruce Rogers.

Governor Chafee stated that it was a great precedent that the Commission voted unanimously in all votes which is a testament to the working relationship between the State and City. Governor Chafee touched on brief highlights as to the reasons why the State became involved in East Providence and some of the accomplishments. Director of Revenue Rosemary Booth Gallogly continued by stating the most important accomplishments of the Commission were adopting a

balanced 5-year budget plan, creating the Budget Reserve Fund, and stabilizing the credit rating from a negative outlook to a positive outlook. Director Gallogly stated the full list of accomplishments is outlined in the letter included in the packet for the meeting.

Mayor Jim Briden presented Governor Chafee with a Citation on behalf of the City of East Providence thanking him for his efforts in stabilizing the finances of the City.

Item #2: Review and approval of Tentative Collective Bargaining Agreement with Police, Fire, and Council 94 – Joe Whalen.

Chair Brennan states that at this time only the Tentative Collective Bargaining Agreement for Council 94 is ready to be approved by the Commission. The Commission approves it unanimously 5-0.

Item #3: Resolution of approval of TANS – Malcolm Moore.

Finance Director Malcolm Moore stated that this resolution was to draw down the final amount in TANS for the fiscal year. He stated that the final draw was less than the original \$5 million required and that the total amount of TANS for FY 2013 will be \$19,790,000 which is less than the originally anticipated \$22,000,000. Director Moore stated that the interest rates have gone down with the final TANS interest rate being 2.95%. The Budget Commission approves the resolution unanimously.

Item #4: Second Reading and Approval of Amended Rainy Day Fund Ordinance previously adopted by the East Providence Budget Commission May 31, 2012.

The Budget Commission approves unanimously.

Item #5: Review of payments, procurements, and personnel actions since February 28, 2013 – Peter Graczykowski and John DeGoes.

City Manager Peter Graczykowski states the City Council has approved two bids for the ERP Financial Software and a Municipal Compost Screener. The payments made by the City and School since the last Budget Commission meeting on February 28, 2013 are reviewed and approved. The personnel action items of hiring two middle managers in the Human Resources Department and an emergency hire at the Early Childhood Coordinator are reviewed and approved. The stipends paid to the Finance Dept. as part of a previous Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) approved by the Budget Commission in May of 2012 was reviewed and approved.

Item #6: Review of City Council Minutes from March 5, 2013.

The Commission reviewed the minutes and made no actions.

Item #7: Approval of Budget Commission Minutes from February 28, 2013.

The Commission approved the minutes from February 28, 2013.

Mayor Jim Briden presents the volunteer Budget Commission members, Director of Revenue Gallogly, and staff members from the State with Citations thanking them for their work in helping to restore financial stability to the City.

Director Gallogly states that Michael O'Keefe is resigning as his position on the Budget Commission and will be replaced by Deputy Director of Revenue Christy Healey. She explains that the Commission will remain in place until the Administrative and Finance Officer (AFO) is appointed. The Commission will no longer meet, but be in an advisory status until the AFO is appointed.

The meeting is adjourned at 3:29 PM.

EPBC/re

Approved by the EPBC on May 2, 2013.